



**RECEIVED**

AUG 26 2016

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-16-20**  
**August 29, 2016**

**LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue wastewater discharge permits to the facilities listed in this notice. These permits are issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); ARM 17.30.1001 *et seq.*, Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared draft permits for the facilities listed below. Copies of the draft permits, fact sheets, and environmental assessments are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: City of Helena

FACILITY NAME: City of Helena Ten Mile Water Treatment Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: 1115 Rimini Road, Helena, MT 59601

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 002: Ground water and unnamed tributary to Tenmile Creek

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0028720

This is a notice for renewal of the MPDES permit MT0028720 for the City of Helena Ten Mile (Ten Mile) Water Treatment Facility (WTF). The Ten Mile WTF is a 9.0 million gallon per day potable water treatment plant using clarification and filtration processes to treat raw surface water to provide finished drinking water for 27,000 people. Clarifier and filter backwash is treated through a series of three sedimentation/infiltration lagoons.

The renewed permit continues coverage for surface water discharge to Tenmile Creek from the three sedimentation/infiltration lagoons from both ground water and via an unnamed tributary. Due to lack of hydrogeologic information for the area, DEQ made the conservative assumption that the ground water is connected to the surface water and the surface water effluent limits are sufficiently conservative and must be met at the end of the new outfall.

Metals limits (arsenic, cadmium, and zinc) became effective in January 2016. Based on improved ambient and effluent data, the proposed permit renewal includes slightly different effluent limits for these metals as well as a new limit (copper) that becomes effective in 2020.

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#### APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: AquaFlo, LLC

FACILITY NAME: Skyview & NW Subdivisions Community Water and Sewer Utility

FACILITY LOCATION: 1065 Avian Drive, Helena, Montana. This subdivision and the wastewater treatment system are located approximately 1.3 miles north of the intersection of Lincoln Road and North Montana Avenue in the north Helena Valley.

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 002 – Class I Ground Water

PERMIT NUMBER: MTX000121

A determination has been made by DEQ to reissue a Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS) permit, MTX000121, to AquaFlo, LLC for the Skyview & NW Subdivisions Community Water and Sewer Utility. This permitting action authorizes discharge of treated wastewater to ground water. The scope of this permitting action is for the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment and disposal system.

The applicant operates a residential wastewater treatment system (WWTS) with a design capacity of 30,660 gallons/day. Septic lines are gravity fed from 143 individual residential and 6 commercial septic tanks. The wastewater treatment facility collects and distributes the influent to 3 different Recirculation Tanks, each with an associated Recirculating Sand Filter. Each of these recirculating sand filters can accommodate 10,220 gallons/day. The sand filters then pass their partially treated influent collectively to pump stations and 4 different dose tanks. These dose tanks send effluent to their respective drainfield zones (4 zones total) under pressure. The 4 zones of the pressure dosed drainfield (designated as Outfall 002) are arranged in a line that end-to-end stretches for ~1,795 feet along the south border of the subdivision. This long drainfield constitutes the final treatment and onsite disposal of the septic effluent. DEQ recognizes that in comparison to conventional septic treatment, this treatment system may provide a higher level of treatment for nutrients.

The facility uses subsurface structures (Outfall 002) to discharge treated wastewater to underlying groundwater. The discharge structure's location is:

NE 1/4 Section 7, Township 11 N, Range 3 West;

Street address of the WWTS is 1065 Avian Drive, Lewis & Clark County.

The coordinates are Latitude: 46.728611° Longitude: -112.024722°.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS September 28, 2016.

Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS September 28, 2016 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail the Department at [DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov](mailto:DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov).

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373 and 17.30.1024).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative

record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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